



PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-5644

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Osamu KASONO et al.)
Application No.: 09/813,306) Group Art Unit: 2652
Filed: March 21, 2001) Examiner: Unassigned
For: OPTICAL HEAD APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED ()
DEC 23 2002

Sir:

Technology Center 2600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Accordingly, Applicants do not believe that a fee is due for filing this paper.

The listed documents were cited in a European Search Report dated November 25, 2002 in the corresponding European patent application. A copy of the Search Report is attached hereto.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each of all of the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not

constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

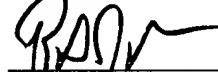
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By:



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Dated: December 20, 2002

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